

ON A STOMATOPOD NEW TO AUSTRALIA, WITH A LIST
OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SPECIES OF THE
ORDER.

By

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(Read 21st April, 1914.)

On 16th March, 1914, the W.A. Museum received from Mr. Aldrich, the Chief Inspector of Fisheries, a large *Squilla* obtained in King Sound. It proves to be a male example of *Lysiosquilla maculata*, Fabr., which has not hitherto been recorded from the Australian coast, though in view of its wide distribution it might have been expected to occur in our tropical water, as it ranges from Japan and Oceania to South Africa and has also been found in the West Indies. The nearest localities from which it has previously been recorded are New Guinea, Goram, Amboina, Flores, and Christmas Island.

Unfortunately the present example is in poor condition, the last four abdominal somites and the telson being missing. When perfect the specimen must have measured at least 250 mm., a size which is only rarely exceeded in this species. The most interesting feature of the present example is the form of the rostrum, which approaches that of var. *sulcirostris*, Kemp, founded on a single specimen from the Andaman Islands. The specimen has, however, nine teeth on the dactylus, whereas *sulcirostris* has only eight and typical *maculata* usually has ten and very rarely nine. The sixth abdominal somite, which also presents points of difference between *maculata* and *sulcirostris*, is unfortunately missing, but the present specimen, like *sulcirostris*, has the dark transverse bands much narrower than in Kemp's figures of *L. maculata*. The W.A. Museum collection previously contained specimens of three other species of Stomatopods from the Western Australian coasts:—

Squilla miles, Hess, without definite locality,
Gonodactylus chiragra, Fabr., without definite locality, and
Gonodactylus glabrous, Brooks, from Sharks Bay (presented by Mr. Aldrich in 1913).

Of these the first is a very rare species, the type having been found at Sydney, and the only other example previously recorded being from the coast of Victoria. *G. chiragra* is a very abundant form throughout the Indo-Pacific region and is known to inhabit the west coast of Australia as far south as Swan River. *G. glabrous* is also a widely distributed Indo-Pacific species, but the only examples

previously recorded from Australia were from Sir C. Hardy's Island in the Barrier Reef.

For the identification of these species and the information as to their distribution I am indebted to Kemp's Memoir on the Stomatopoda of the Indo-Pacific Region.* This paper contains records of three other species from Western Australia:—

Gonodactylus graphurus, Miers. obtained off Baudin I., and Baleine Bank in N.W. Australia, in depths between 8 and 20 fms.;

Gonodactylus trispinosus, Dana, from Swan River and from Baleine Bank, and

Gonodactylus stoliurus, Muller, from Sharks Bay.

Thus our Stomatopod fauna as at present known comprises seven species, one of *Lysiosquilla*, one of *Squilla*, and five of *Gonodactylus*. Of these six are widely distributed tropical Indo-Pacific forms, and one appears to be confined to the southern half of the Australian coast-line.

FURTHER NOTES ON W.A. STOMATOPODS.

By

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Since my last communication to the Society on the subject of Stomatopods, I have been allowed by Mr. F. Aldrich, Chief Inspector of Fisheries, to examine a further collection of these animals which he has received from the North-West.

This collection contained six specimens from Derby of *Lysiosquilla maculata*, Fabr., all of them large males in good condition, and they enable me to supplement my remarks on the single specimen in poor condition received before. They vary in length from 210 to 280 mms. Five have 10 spines on the dactylus, and one only 9.

The specimens all agree with Kemp's var. *sulcirostris* in the form of the rostrum; they are also remarkably uniform in colouration, possessing the minimum amount of dark colouring met with

* Kemp: Memoirs of the Indian Museum, Vol. IV., No. 1, 1913.